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The Naval History Society



1913



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The Naval History Society



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ACT OF INCORPORATION OF THE NAVAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

[PUBLIC—No. 281.]

[H. R. 24026.]

An Act to Incorporate the Naval History Society.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Charles Francis Adams, of Massachusetts; James Barnes, of New York; Willard H. Brownson, of the District of Columbia; French E. Chadwick, of Rhode Island; William C. Church, of New York; George Dewey, of the District of Columbia; Henry A. du Pont, of Delaware; Loyall Farragut, of New York; Caspar F. Goodrich, of Connecticut; Charles T. Harbeck, of New York; Grenville Kane, of New York; Stephen B. Luce, of Rhode Island; John F. Meigs, of Pennsylvania; Robert W. Neeser, of New York; Herbert L. Satterlee, of New York; Charles H. Stockton, of the District of Columbia; Charles W. Stewart, of the District of Columbia; Robert M. Thompson, of New York; Richard Wainwright, of the District of Columbia; John W. Weeks, of Massachusetts, and their associates and successors, be, and they are hereby, incorporated and made a body politic and corporate in the District of Columbia, by the name of "The Naval History Society"; and by that name may sue or be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity, and may have and use a common seal, and change the same at pleasure, and be entitled to use and exercise all the powers, rights, and privileges incidental to fraternal and benevolent corporations within the District of Columbia.

SEC. 2. That the object of such corporation shall be to discover and procure data, manuscripts, writings, and whatever may relate to naval history, science, and art, and the surroundings and experience of seamen in general and of American seamen in particular, and to preserve same by publication or otherwise; and to acquire, establish, or maintain in the city of Washington or elsewhere, for the use of its members and others, a house or rooms having a library, reading room, and such other appurtenances and belongings as may be desired.

SEC. 3. That said corporation may adopt a constitution and by-laws, and shall have power to amend the same at pleasure: *Provided*, That they do not conflict with the Constitution and laws of the United States.

SEC. 4. That said corporation shall have the right to hold meetings at any place in the United States, but annual meetings for the election of officers shall be held in the city of Washington, where the principal office of said corporation shall be.

SEC. 5 That the said corporation shall have the power to take and hold, by gift, grant, purchase, or devise, real and personal property not exceeding in value five hundred thousand dollars, which shall not be divided among the members of the corporation, but shall be used and administered as a trust for the purposes of the corporation, and so far as unexpended transmitted to their successors for the further promotion of such purposes.

SEC. 6. That the government of such corporation shall be vested in a board of eleven managers, to be elected by the members of such corporation, and the corporation shall have such officers as its constitution and by-laws may prescribe. The incorporators herein named, or a majority of them, shall act as the board of managers until their successors in office are chosen at the first meeting of the society after the passage of this Act.

SEC. 7. That this charter shall be subject to alteration, amendment, or repeal at the pleasure of the Congress of the United States.

SEC. 8. That this Act shall take effect immediately on its passage.

Approved, August 21, 1912.

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BY-LAWS OF THE NAVAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

(Adopted at the Meeting of the Society of December 5th, 1912.)

SECTION 1. The *Society* shall be composed of members, life members and honorary members.

SEC. 2. The *Annual Dues* for members shall be five dollars. Members who are two years in arrears in their dues may be dropped from the list of members by the Board of Managers after timely notice.

SEC. 3. The *Fee* for life members shall be one hundred dollars.

SEC. 4. Except by special vote of the Board of Managers, the number of Americans elected as *Honorary Members* shall not exceed ten, exclusive of the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Navy, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and the Admiral of the Navy, who shall be honorary members *ex-officio*.

SEC. 5. *Special Gifts* may be received. The Board of Managers, in acknowledgment, may, at its discretion, characterize the givers as patrons or benefactors, with the full rights of membership. Benefactors shall have the right to dispose of their membership by gift or bequest.

SEC. 6. The *Officers* of the Society shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Board of Managers, to be elected for one year at the annual meeting of the Society by the members present. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by one person.

SEC. 7. The *Board of Managers* shall consist of twelve members, including the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, who shall be members of the Board of Managers *ex-officio*.

SEC. 8. If a *Vacancy* occurs among the officers of the Society, or in the Board of Managers, the latter shall appoint a member of the Society to fill the office vacated during the unexpired term of his predecessor. Five members shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Managers.

SEC. 9. The *Annual Meeting* of the Society shall be held in the rooms of the Society, or at such other place in the city of Washington as the President may designate, on such a day in the month of December of each year as the Executive Committee may appoint. Members of all classes may vote at annual meetings by duly executed proxy.

SEC. 10. *Special Meetings* of the Society may be held after ten (10) days' notice of time and place, upon the call of the Board of Managers or by the Secretary upon the written request of twenty members. The objects of a special meeting must be stated in the call and the business confined to those objects.

SEC. 11. The *President* and *Vice-President* shall perform the usual duties of their respective offices.

SEC. 12. The *Secretary* shall keep the records and correspondence of the Society, issue the necessary notices, and until provision is made for a Librarian, he shall act in that capacity.

SEC. 13. The *Treasurer* shall keep the accounts of the Society, receive and receipt for all dues and gifts and, under the direction of the Board of Managers, make all necessary investments and expenditures. The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of November.

SEC. 14. The *Accounts* of the Treasurer shall be audited by a committee of members appointed for that purpose by the President. No member of the Board of Managers shall be eligible for duty on the Auditing Committee, which shall present its report at the annual meeting of the Society in December.

SEC. 15. The *Board of Managers* shall have charge of the financial and other affairs of the Society. It shall meet from time to time, as necessary.

SEC. 16. An *Executive Committee* shall be appointed by the President from the members of the Board of Managers, to serve for the year ending on the thirty-first of December, on which date the terms of office of the Officers and Managers shall expire. The Executive Committee shall consist of five members, including the President and the Secretary who shall be members *ex-officio*.

SEC. 17. There shall be a *Nominating Committee*, appointed by the President at least one month before the annual meeting, whose duty it shall be to nominate the officers and managers for the coming year; this list of nominations shall be sent by the Secretary to all members, for their vote and approval in case they are not able to be present at the annual meeting. Members shall be at liberty to make independent nominations.

SEC. 18. The Board of Managers shall have the power to select for *Publication* any material embraced within the scope of the objects of the Society, to print the same in such form and numbers, as may in their judgment be appropriate, and at such time as may be expedient. They shall fix the price to be paid for each copy by non-members, but every members, whose dues are paid for the current year, shall be entitled to one copy of each publication.

SEC. 19. The *Executive Committee* shall have all the powers of the Board of Managers when the latter are not in session. The minutes of the meetings of the Executive Committee shall be laid before the Board of Managers at the regular meetings.

SEC. 20. These *By-Laws* may be amended, at any annual meeting, or at a meeting specially called for the purpose. Proposed amendments are to be submitted to the Board of Managers through the Secretary at least thirty days before the meeting at which they are to be voted on.

OFFICERS OF THE NAVAL HISTORY SOCIETY FOR THE
YEAR 1912.

PRESIDENT

Rear Admiral Stephen B. Luce, U. S. N.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Rear Admiral French E. Chadwick, U. S. N.

SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Robert W. Neeser, 247 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

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Rear Admiral F. E. Chadwick, U. S. N.

Colonel William C. Church

Loyall Farragut

Rear Admiral S. B. Luce, U. S. N.

Charles T. Harbeck

Grenville Kane

John Forsyth Meigs

Robert W. Neeser

Herbert L. Satterlee

Rear Admiral C. H. Stockton, U. S. N.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

James Barnes

Grenville Kane

Rear Admiral S. B. Luce, U. S. N.

John Forsyth Meigs

Robert W. Neeser

OFFICERS OF THE NAVAL HISTORY SOCIETY FOR THE
YEAR 1913

PRESIDENT

Rear Admiral Charles H. Davis, U. S. N.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Herbert L. Satterlee

SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Robert W. Neeser, 247 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

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Rear Admiral F. E. Chadwick, U. S. N.

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Rear Admiral C. H. Davis, U. S. N.

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Charles T. Harbeck

Grenville Kane

Rear Admiral S. B. Luce, U. S. N.

Robert W. Neeser

Herbert L. Satterlee

Rear Admiral C. H. Stockton, U. S. N.

Colonel Robert M. Thompson

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

James Barnes

Rear Admiral C. H. Davis, U. S. N.

Grenville Kane

Robert W. Neeser

Herbert L. Satterlee

MEMBERS OF THE NAVAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS (4)

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
THE ADMIRAL OF THE NAVY

BENEFACTOR (1)

THOMPSON, ROBERT M., 43 Exchange Place, New York, N. Y.

PATRON (1)

JAMES, ARTHUR CURTISS, 99 John St., New York, N. Y.

LIFE MEMBERS (27)

ADAMS, CHARLES FRANCIS, 1701 Massachusetts Ave., Washington, D. C.
*BARNES, JOHN SANFORD.
*BLISS, CORNELIUS N.
DU PONT, HON. HENRY A., U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C.
DU PONT, T. COLEMAN, Du Pont Bldg., Wilmington, Del.
FEARING, DANIEL B., The Cliffs, Newport, R. I.
FORD, JAMES B., 1784 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
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NEWBERRY, TRUMAN H., Ford Bldg., Detroit, Mich.
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TOD, ROBERT E., 5 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.
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WEEKS, HON. JOHN W., House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.
WETMORE, HON. GEORGE PEABODY, U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C.

* Deceased.

ANNUAL MEMBERS (169)

- ADDICKS, WALTER R., 4 Irving Place, New York, N. Y.
 ADMIRALTY LIBRARY, Whitehall, London, S. W., England.
 ALLEN, CHARLES H., 28 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.
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 ARMOUR, ALLISON V., care N. W. Brown, 1 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.
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 BRITISH MUSEUM, care B. F. Stevens and Brown, 4 Trafalgar Sq., London, Eng.
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SEITZ, DON C., The World Bldg., New York, N. Y.
SINGER, FREDERIC, Rear Admiral, U.S.N., care U.S. Dispatch Agt., London, Eng.
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TERRY, REV. RODERICK, "Linden Gate," Newport, R. I.

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U. S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, Newport, R. I.
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY, Berkeley, Cal.
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, General Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.
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YALE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, New Haven, Conn.

EXCHANGES (3)

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Fenway, Boston, Mass.

SOCIETY FOR NAUTICAL RESEARCH, London, England.

UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE, Annapolis, Md.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING, HELD ON

DECEMBER 5, 1912.

The first meeting of the incorporators of the Naval History Society, this being at the same time the third annual meeting of the old Naval History Society, was held in the rooms of the Library of the Department of the Navy, Washington, D. C., on the afternoon of Thursday, the 5th of December, 1912, at four o'clock.

The following gentlemen were present: The Secretary of the Navy, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Charles Francis Adams, Rear Admiral A. S. Barker, U.S.N.; Mr. James Barnes, Prof. A. N. Brown, of the U. S. Naval Academy; Rear Admiral F. E. Chadwick, U.S.N.; Rear Admiral C. H. Davis, U.S.N.; Mr. Arthur H. Dadmun, Capt. H. O. Dunn, U.S.N.; Rear Admiral C. F. Goodrich, U.S.N.; Mr. Charles T. Harbeck, Mr. Gaillard Hunt, Rear Admiral T. F. Jewell, U.S.N.; Mr. Grenville Kane, Mr. Waldo G. Leland, Mr. John F. Meigs, Mr. J. W. Miller, Rear Admiral J. B. Murdoch, U.S.N.; Mr. R. W. Neeser, Mr. C. O. Paullin, Mr. Herbert L. Satterlee, Rear Admiral C. H. Stockton, U.S.N.; Mr. Charles W. Stewart, Rear Admiral C. E. Vreeland, U.S.N.

The meeting of the incorporators was called to order by Rear Admiral French E. Chadwick, U.S.N., as Vice-President of the old Naval History Society, and one of the incorporators of the new society, who thus briefly referred to the work already accomplished by the old society:

"I think, gentlemen, we have every reason to be satisfied with the way in which we are getting on. Our numbers in November, 1910, were but 100; only 123 last November, but are now 195.

"The Society, it may interest some here to know, had its beginning on May 9, 1909, when some naval officers and gentlemen in civil life met at the New York Yacht Club. On November 16 of that year a meeting was held at Captain Barnes' house to complete an organization. A charter which it was expected to take out in the State of New York was drafted, By-laws were drawn up, and Captain Barnes elected President. The first annual meeting was held on November 9, 1910; the first volume of our publications issued in 1911 on the 1910 subscriptions and last May the second volume was published (for 1911). The 1912 volume is now in the printer's hands. These volumes, in their selection and arrangement, were due to the labors of Captain Barnes, whose loss we must always deplore, and to Mr. James Barnes, who continues his father's interest in the Society.

"Largely through the labors of Gen. Adams, the Society is now on a secure basis under an incorporation by Congress. Its finances are eminently satisfactory, and we can confidently look forward to an interesting and successful future.

"Our volumes thus far have dealt with the Revolutionary period. We have, I think, been wise in such a selection. We are not here to deal so much with events as with the soul of events, the spirit of things which brought about the American Navy and caused its record to be what it is. Events are wholly secondary. The primary thing is the cause, and after that, in historical importance, are the results. We have had history of events until there is almost a plethora of such records, but back of these events there was always the moving cause, the soul, which is to be found, if at all, in such things as those which we are publishing. It must be remembered that the United States staggered along for years, many of our foremost men even having their doubts whether it would ever develop into bone and muscle from the loose protoplasm of its first existence. The Navy had much to do with this development, and much, too, as the epic of the Barbary Wars, which has almost been forgotten. It is not far amiss to say that Hull's victory in the *Constitution* caused this country first to realize its nationhood. One can hardly venture to say what would have come about but for the successes of our Navy in the War of 1812.

"It is with the inner history of this growth with which we have to deal. We already have the first fruits. I am sure, as we go on, the field in which we have begun our work and which has so long lain fallow, will extend in space

beyond our present imagination, and gives results which will make us glad to have undertaken the work."

It was a pleasure, the Chairman added, to have present at the meeting the Secretary of the Navy, who on being introduced addressed the gentlemen present as follows:

"Mr. Chairman and Members of the Naval History Society: I want to congratulate you upon the existence of this Society, which would seem to be only two or three years old, as Admiral Chadwick has related its history. I cannot help feeling that the child is a very lusty one as it has now been recognized by the United States Navy and authorized to exist under the laws of the United States. I appreciate that the field that is open to this Society is one of very great importance in the history of our country, particularly the naval history. It may act as the custodian, in the future, of valuable manuscripts and historical records and may be the cause of bringing them at the end of last winter, Mr. Adams told me it was being considered what would be the best way to proceed in order to legalize this Society." (Mr. Adams here interposed: "It was a year ago, Mr. Secretary.") "Was it a year? How time flies! Considering how difficult it is to get legislation in the Halls of Congress." (Mr. Adams again interposed: "And no one knows that better than you, Mr. Secretary.") and the fact that many societies and people have to wait for it. I congratulate you all upon your existence under the statutes and I prophesy a most useful as well as beneficial record of the Navy."

The Chairman then submitted to the meeting of the incorporators, the Act of Incorporation of the Naval History Society, passed by the Senate and House of Representatives at their last session, and approved by the President of the United States, August 21, 1912. The foregoing act, being submitted to the meeting, was, by vote, accepted.

In accordance with the terms of the Act of Incorporation the Society then proceeded to organize, and to elect officers for the coming year:

The following nominations were then made:

For President, Rear Admiral Charles H. Davis, U.S.N.

For Vice-President, Mr. Herbert L. Satterlee.

For Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Robert W. Neeser.

For Members of the Board of Managers:

Mr. James Barnes.

Rear Admiral F. E. Chadwick, U.S.N.

Colonel William C. Church.

Rear Admiral C. F. Goodrich, U.S.N.

Mr. Charles T. Harbeck.

Mr. Grenville Kane.

Rear Admiral S. B. Luce, U.S.N.

Rear Admiral C. H. Stockton, U.S.N.

Colonel Robert M. Thompson.

And there being none other offered, the Secretary was instructed to cast a ballot for the aforesaid gentlemen as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and Members of the Board of Managers.

A Committee having previously been appointed by the Chair to draw up By-laws for the government of the Society, the meeting then proceeded to consider the same, as reported by Mr. Satterlee for the Committee. On motion duly seconded and carried the foregoing By-laws were adopted by the Society.

The minutes of the last meeting of the old Society were then read by the Secretary and accepted, after which the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the past year were presented.

A letter was next read, from Rear Admiral Luce, tendering his resignation as President of the old Society, which on motion was accepted, with regret, by the members present, and Mr. Satterlee, Admiral Goodrich and Admiral Stockton were chosen by the Chair to act upon the minutes accepting the said resignation.

It was then moved, and duly seconded, that the Secretary be offered a vote of thanks for his successful administration of the Society's affairs during the past year.

At this point Rear Admiral Chadwick introduced to the meeting Admiral Davis, the Society's new President, and vacated the chair in his favor. The new presiding officer thereupon addressed the meeting as follows:

"I feel greatly honored by you gentlemen and I must say that perhaps you could have made a better choice. But perhaps a keen interest in the affairs of this Society and a determination to maintain the high standing that it now holds and an attempt to increase its membership, especially among the officers on the active list of the Navy, may make up for possible shortcomings. I thank you."

The meeting then proceeded to the discussion of various matters. Admiral Stockton spoke briefly on the advisability of giving the Society the greatest publicity possible and of thus calling the attention of those who might be interested in its objects and work. It was a matter worthy of serious consideration and he wished simply to call attention to it as a matter for action at a later date. The suggestion was also made that the Society hold its meetings with the American Historical Association, in joint session, and this arrangement was welcomed by Mr. Leland, who spoke in behalf of that Association.

There being no further business before the meeting, an adjournment was voted and carried.

ROBERT W. NEESER, *Secretary.*



REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVAL HISTORY SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1912.

December 1, 1912.

During the past year the number of members has increased to one hundred and ninety-five; the membership of the present date comprising four honorary members, one benefactor, one patron, twenty-six life members, and one hundred and sixty-three annual subscribers, the loss by withdrawals and deaths having numbered two.

It is with great pleasure that I have the honor of announcing the Society's incorporation by Act of Congress, approved August 21st, 1912. The question of securing a Federal incorporation had long been considered and earnestly discussed at several meetings of the officers and members of the Society, and at one of these, held last January, a bill was finally drawn up by a committee appointed by the Board of Managers. This bill was introduced in the House of Representatives by Judge Brantley, on May 1st, 1912, and by that body referred to its Committee on Library for consideration. After elaborate hearings at which a large number of the gentlemen named as incorporators were present, the bill was unanimously reported by that committee and approved by the House without dissenting vote. The Senate thereupon likewise voted that the measure be passed and the bill, on the 21st of August, 1912, received the signature of the President of the United States and became a law.

The second volume of the Society's publications, containing the "Narrative of Nathaniel Fanning, appeared in the spring and was issued to the members on their 1911 subscriptions. The book was unusually well received and the general satisfaction of the members at this production was expressed in the large number of complimentary letters received by the Secretary.

Several other volumes have been in preparation during the year and the managers decided, at their last meeting, to publish for the third volume, to be issued to the 1912 subscribers, "The Despatches of Molyneux Shulldham, Vice-Admiral of the Blue and Commander-in-Chief of His Britannic Majesty's Ships in North America, January-July, 1776." This interesting collection of documentary evidence relating to the naval operations of our Revolutionary War never before has been printed, nor have the more important of them apparently come to the knowledge of the historians of the period. They present the English point of view of the struggle and in addition furnish us with one of the most interesting of the relics of our own infant navy—the log-book of the Continental Cruiser *Andrew Doria*, which cruised with such marked successes under Captain Nicholas Biddle. The entries cover the period from January 4th, 1776, when Esek Hopkins' squadron left Philadelphia, until the middle of June of the same year, when Biddle made prizes of two English transports with Highland troops on board. It is therefore the earliest log-book of the American Navy, and as such will be of the greatest interest to every member of this Society. This volume is now in press and will be published in February of the coming year.

With regard to the succeeding volumes of the Society's publications, the Board of Managers wish to announce their acceptance of the very kind offer of Dr. Charles O. Paullin to edit the records of "The Marine Committee," contained in their letter books now in the possession of the Library of Congress. This most interesting correspondence will comprise about two volumes, one of which Dr. Paullin hopes to have ready for publication about the latter part of the coming year.

The Society has, through the generosity of its members and of several persons interested in its purposes, received important acquisitions to its collection of records, during the past few months. Colonel William C. Church, one of its founders and incorporators, has most kindly presented his valuable collection of manuscripts and other relics of John Ericsson, the designer of our first turret ironclad. These papers will shortly be turned over to the Society

and placed in a safe depository where they will be accessible and available for examination to the members of the Society.

In addition to these papers, the Society has obtained possession, through its Secretary, of transcripts of the Orders and Instructions, Secret Letters and Correspondence emanating from the British Admiralty during the early period of the Revolutionary War, 1774-1777, and addressed by it to Admirals Graves and Shulldham, the Commanders-in-Chief on the North American Station. The importance of these documents, as revealing the administrative policy of the Navy of Great Britain towards the revolting colonies, can be imagined. The transcripts were made by Messrs. B. F. Stevens and Brown, of London, England, and bear every mark of their admirable and reliable work.

The Secretary also here wishes to make grateful acknowledgment of gifts of volumes for the Society's library from Dr. A. L. Mason, of Boston; Mr. Frank W. Hackett, of Washington, and Mr. Charles T. Harbeck, of New York; and also to extend the Society's thanks to Mr. Augustus G. Cobb, of Tarrytown, for the collection of prints, portraits and other material, so generously donated by him.

Very respectfully,

ROBERT W. NEESER, *Secretary.*



REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE NAVAL HISTORY SOCIETY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 1912.

November 1, 1912.

To the Officers and Members of the Society:

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to submit the following report for the year ending October 31, 1912:

INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1911-1912.

Cash balance on hand November 1, 1911.....	\$2,517.06
From annual dues	1,220.00
From life membership fees.....	200.00
By sale of publications	196.80
By gifts to endowment	5,000.00
By interest on deposits	57.28
	\$9,191.14

EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR 1911-1912.

To printing, binding, etc., Vol. II of publications.....	\$1,192.00
Postage and expressage	29.46
Printing notices, reports, lists, etc.....	33.25
Stationery	16.65
Typewriting	13.14
Engrossing resolutions	25.00
Travelling expenses of Secretary	22.00
To cost of transcripts for Vol. IV of publications.....	35.98
Exchange on out-of-town checks	2.80
	\$1,370.28
Cash balance in Guaranty Trust Company.....	7,820.86
	\$9,191.14

The large amount included under the gifts to endowment was made possible through the generosity of Col. Robert M. Thompson, who during the past year made this subscription to the Society's fund. The Board of Managers, at their last meeting, voted the thanks of the Society to Col. Thompson, which were suitably engrossed and forwarded to him by the Secretary. At the same time resolutions were passed that this sum and the moneys already subscribed to endowment be properly invested in interest-bearing securities by a "Finance Committee" appointed by the Managers and that hereafter only the interest derived therefrom be expended in meeting the Society's current indebtednesses. It was the sense of the gentlemen present that the Society should hereafter also pursue this policy with reference to all life membership fees received, and in this way to gradually increase the endowment in order that a substantial income might be secured to further the objects of the Society.

Very respectfully,

ROBERT W. NEESER, *Treasurer.*

